

U.S. Serial No. 10/707,136

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuo (US6767024). In Kuo, the rotatable cap 61 is connected to a base member 62, the base member 62 being threadably connected to a top of *the inner tube 52*, not to the crown. Further, the control cable block 651 is attached to the clamp ring 65, the clamp ring 65 being securely mounted to the base member 62, the base member 62 threadably connected to the top of the inner tube 52, finally the inner tube 52 connected to the crown. Accordingly, none of the elements 61, 65, and especially 651, are connected to the crown. On the contrary, the claimed invention requires that the cable guide housing be integrally formed with the crown. Additionally, cap 61 is rotatable relative to control cable block 651 and clamp ring 65, therefore, it cannot be integrally formed with these elements 651, 65 or with the crown. Finally, in the Kuo device, because both the clamp ring 65 and the cap 61 are connected to base member 62 which is threaded to the inner tube 52, the resulting orientation of the cable block 651 relative to the crown will vary depending on the number of threads of the base member 62. Accordingly, in the Kuo device, the clamp ring 65 must be loosened and adjusted to properly orient the cable B. This problem is avoided in the claimed invention where the cable guide housing is formed integrally with the crown.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected as claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Since claims 2 and 3 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 as amended, they are felt to overcome the obviousness rejection in the same manner as amended claim 1.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuo alone. Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and therefore is felt to be patentable over Kuo in the same manner as claim 1. Further, the limitation "forged together" is used to describe physical characteristics of the product. These words are limitations on the structure of the invention, not words describing how the invention is made. See e.g., *In re Garner*, 412 F.2d 276, 162 U.S.P.Q. 221 (C.C.P.A. 1969) (holding "interbonded by interfusion" to limit structure of the claimed composite and noting the terms such as "welded," "intermixed,"

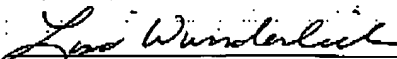
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"ground in place," "press fitted," and "etched" are capable of construction as structural limitations.) Accordingly, the limitation "forged together" is a structural limitation that should be given patentable weight. For the above reasons, the rejection of claim 4 should be withdrawn.

This reply is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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